

Pipilo erythrophthalmus (Eastern Towhee)

Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: Aves (Birds)

Order: Passeriformes (Perching Birds)

Family: Emberizidae (Bunting, Juncos, Longspurs, Sparrows And Towhees)

General comments:

Regional Concern in BCR30 based on moderate threats on breeding range and declining trend (10 yr = -4.42 [-5.8 to -3.0], n=135 rtes, rel abund=10.5 birds/rte. Species also high relative density in BCR30

Species Conservation Range Maps for Eastern Towhee:

Town Map: [Pipilo erythrophthalmus_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Pipilo erythrophthalmus_HUC12.pdf](#)

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Risk of Extirpation: NA

State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:

Pipilo erythrophthalmus is listed as a species of Special Concern in Maine.

Recent Significant Declines: NA

Regional Endemic: NA

High Regional Conservation Priority:

Partners In Flight:

Regional Species of Concern: Yes, United States and Canada Species of Concern: No, Regional Stewardship Species: No

High Climate Change Vulnerability: NA

Understudied rare taxa: NA

Historical: NA

Culturally Significant: NA

Habitats Assigned to Eastern Towhee:

Formation Name Grassland & Shrubland

Macrogroup Name Glade, Barren and Savanna

Habitat System Name: Central Appalachian Alkaline Glade and Woodland

Macrogroup Name Outcrop & Summit Scrub

Habitat System Name: Laurentian-Acadian Calcareous Rocky Outcrop

Habitat System Name: Northern Appalachian-Acadian Rocky Heath Outcrop

Macrogroup Name Ruderal Shrubland & Grassland

Habitat System Name: Introduced Shrubland

Habitat System Name: Powerline Right-of-Way

Formation Name Northeastern Upland Forest

Macrogroup Name Central Oak-Pine

Habitat System Name: Central Appalachian Pine-Oak Rocky Woodland

Habitat System Name: North Atlantic Coastal Plain Hardwood Forest

Habitat System Name: North Atlantic Coastal Plain Maritime Forest

Habitat System Name: Northeastern Interior Pine Barrens

Macrogroup Name Plantation and Ruderal Forest

Habitat System Name: Ruderal Forest - Northern and Central Hardwood and Conifer

Stressors Assigned to Eastern Towhee:

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Stressor Priority Level based on Severity and Actionability		Moderate Severity	High Severity
	Highly Actionable	Medium-High	High
	Moderately Actionable	Medium	Medium-High
	Actionable with Difficulty	Low	Low

IUCN Level 1 Threat

Natural Systems Modifications

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Fire and Fire Suppression

Severity: Moderate Severity

Actionability: Moderately actionable

Notes: Fire suppression especially in dry forest types enhances advancement of succession to closed canopy forest

IUCN Level 1 Threat

Other Options

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Lack of knowledge

Severity: Moderate Severity

Actionability: Moderately actionable

Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Eastern Towhee:

None. *Only species specific conservation actions that address high (red) or medium-high (orange) priority stressors are summarized here.*

Guild Level Conservation Actions:

This Species is currently not attributed to a guild.

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.